

JOURNAL

OF

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

Seventy-first Session—1905–1906.

THE OPENING ADDRESS. Delivered by the President, Mr. JOHN BELCHER, A.R.A.,
at the First General Meeting, Monday, 6th November 1905.

COLLEAGUES, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—

THE confidence and goodwill of my brother architects—to which I am indebted for this second opportunity of addressing you at the opening of a new Session—are a source of no small encouragement to me, in view of the difficulties likely to attend upon my position as President during the period upon which we are now entering.

I am very grateful for the courtesy and consideration which have been so generously extended to me on all hands, for the help and support of the Members of Council, and for the ever-ready assistance of our Secretary, Mr. Locke, and the General Staff, to whose patience and zeal in the official and clerical work of the Institute we owe more than its members generally are perhaps aware of.

The general appreciation of the President's "At Homes" has been so plainly evidenced that I am proposing to continue these pleasant reunions during the coming Session. The readiness with which our friends the painters and sculptors have responded to our invitation has added greatly to the popularity of the "At Homes," which have, I hope, served the good purpose of drawing us all more closely together.

Looking back upon the year that is past I may, without fear of contradiction, report to you a great advance in the position of this Institute, in its influence and power, and may with equal confidence prognosticate a still greater advance in the coming year, owing to the special circumstances of the time.

Our numbers have gone up very much, owing partly, no doubt, to the determination of the Institute to close its doors against all who have not passed a qualifying examination.

Our losses have been numerous too, many of the elder men whose labours in the past have done so much to make the Institute what it is, having passed from among us.

The latest loss we have to deplore is that of our distinguished former President, Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, R.A., veritably one of the giants of our days. This is not the occasion for me to dilate upon Mr. Waterhouse's marvellous powers of work, as the vast buildings which remain testify thereto. But it may fairly be claimed for him that he developed a phase of Art—

consistently followed to the last—as peculiarly his own as that of the brothers Adam was characteristic of them in another direction. Entering upon his career just when the tide of Gothic revival was at the flood, he held his youthful bark on a course distinctly his own, making the strong reactionary currents of the time subserve the needs of modern domestic architecture. To his practical and orderly mind the regular and symmetrical classical plan commended itself as no other did, and it was on this that he won his first competition, the Manchester Assize Courts. The history of his life will assuredly be found to be fruitful both in instruction and encouragement for those who love their art. Sympathetic letters have been received at the Institute from Continental architects and others, testifying to the great esteem in which he was held abroad as well as in England.

The public works to which I referred in my Address a year ago are rapidly approaching completion, and in the City the Old Bailey buildings are progressing well. The excellence of Mr. Mountford's plan is more and more evident as it is developed, and the building both externally and internally fully expresses its purpose. The work is broad in treatment, and will no doubt prove impressive in character when completed.

The pulling down of a large portion of the Regent Street Quadrant has been the occasion of considerable anxiety, the more so because buildings recently erected on other Crown property near by exhibit a total disregard for their surroundings, and indeed for any general scheme such as that devised by Nash, to which Regent Street owes its peculiar character and value. The present officials, however, recognising the mistake made in the past, have determined to use their powers to retain a uniform treatment of the Quadrant at least. The need for such uniform treatment was so strongly felt by architects that had it not become known that Mr. Norman Shaw had been engaged upon a design of a façade for all the buildings in the Quadrant there would, I feel sure, have been a general outcry. I have reason to believe now that, thanks to the wisdom of the authorities and the compliance of the County Council, to whose architect we owe much, in respect of such portions as are under their control, there will be achieved a memorable work and a noble termination to Regent Street worthy of a great city.

The proposed new Wesleyan Hall in Westminster gave rise to an important competition, for which many fine designs were submitted. The choice of the assessors in the end fell upon Messrs. Lanchester & Rickards, but there were others who ran these gentlemen very close. The design of Messrs. Cross & Malloys in particular presented many delightful features.

Cardiff, where again Messrs. Lanchester & Rickards are very much in evidence, claims a good deal of our attention at the present time. Its Town Hall and Law Courts promise to be among the most successful buildings of our day. Simple in plan, convenient in arrangement, fine in scale, decorated with just the proper amount of ornament, they will combine with the new University Buildings by Mr. Caröe, the Library and Museum by Mr. Seward, and a small but excellent building by Mr. Wills, to form a remarkable group—situated in beautiful park-like grounds—of which Cardiff may well be proud.

By the far-seeing liberality of the authorities, the architects of the municipal buildings have been enabled to avail themselves of the assistance of some of our best sculptors in giving force and expression to the buildings.

I must pass over many other important works which are either in course of erection or in contemplation, to speak of a matter which touches us very closely—the question, *viz.*, of a new official home for this Institute. Owing to the increase of official work, the growth of the Library, and the need of more space for the exhibition of students' drawings and the display of our many treasures, the premises which we now occupy are daily proving more inadequate to the demands made upon them, and, as they cannot be extended, we have been compelled

to look elsewhere. After many fruitless inquiries and attempts, the Council hope to be able to recommend the acquisition of a fine freehold site which has been found in Portland Place.

I need scarcely say that this important matter has been most carefully considered—by a special Committee of Past Presidents, as well as by the Council and the Finance Committee—both in respect of the expediency of such a step and in respect of ways and means.

The proposals adopted will be laid before you in due course. I must confess I shall be highly gratified if, when the International Congress assembles next year, I am able to point out the site referred to as marking the future home of this Institute.

There is another matter which touches us closely, or ought to. Having increased in numbers and prosperity, the Institute is called to face increasing responsibility towards those (both members and others) who from no fault of their own may have need of help.

Ours is a precarious and ever-shifting profession, with some fat years, perhaps, but many lean ones. It is hard when some who have done good and well-known work suddenly find themselves stranded by unforeseen troubles or unusual circumstances.

Gentlemen, I am distressed to inform you that the small amount of the subscriptions to the Architects' Benevolent Society is totally inadequate to meet the deserving cases which should be relieved. It should be understood that the cases dealt with are scattered throughout the country, and they have increased, but the subscriptions have not. I feel sure that I have only to remind all newly elected members and others who have not yet subscribed to this deserving cause, and they will do so at once, so that funds may be in the hands of the Committee, who, I assure you, spare no pains in their loyal efforts to relieve their distressed comrades.

The policy of the Institute continues to be directed towards the training and advancement of its members and the benefit of the community at large.

Every assistance has been rendered to public bodies who have sought for information or advice, and it is now the almost universal custom to request your President to nominate an Assessor in competitions.

In such competitions I note that the Regulations issued by the Institute are generally adopted; but it would be greatly to the advantage of all parties concerned if, whenever it is proposed to introduce a variation or insert a special clause, such variation or special clause were first supervised by the Assessor. The latter is bound to insist upon the conditions laid down, and any vagueness or uncertainty in technical details—often to the lay mind of no seeming importance—is apt to prove exceedingly unfair to competitors.

It is of great importance also that public bodies, while reserving to themselves the right of confirming the Assessor's decision, should be very slow to override or pass it by. Only a man of considerable practical experience and training in architectural work can lay his finger upon the impracticability or carefully masked faults which mar the designs of so large a proportion of competitors; and to think that it is sufficient for a layman or any body of laymen to know "what they like," to use an expression often heard in such matters, is almost to set a premium upon work which is showy but intrinsically bad. It is the duty of this Institute to lead the way in discerning and approving all that is good and pure in architecture, and to recognise, and so far as possible reward, those qualities which ensure the best results.

The want of discrimination shown in some official and other circles, particularly in the provinces, lends much force and point to the demand for the registration of architects as being one way at least of counteracting the injustice so often done to competent men.

The Committee appointed by the General Body to consider the principle of registration has now reported, and gone so far as to suggest a form of Bill in Parliament. There is, however,

considerable diversity of opinion still, and it is scarcely possible that the Bill should pass into law. Yet some remedy must be found for the present evils; we cannot be indifferent to the interests of the many able men upon whom existing conditions press so hard. Your new Registration Committee has therefore already appointed a Sub-Committee to examine impartially into the whole question. This Committee, which is composed of men holding diverse, even opposite, views, is to receive and consider the evidence of those, whether members of the Institute or not, who may be either in favour of or opposed to compulsory registration, or who have suggestions of any kind which may help the Committee to formulate a scheme which they can recommend. And any of the members in the provinces who may wish to offer suggestions or furnish evidence should communicate with the Secretary as soon as possible. The work of the Committee need not occupy any great length of time; but what is done must be thorough, and we must arrive at a final solution of the question. Should the Committee find it desirable to promote a Bill in Parliament, we must not risk failure or court defeat by presenting one which, owing to the opposition it arouses, has no chance of passing.

The coming year will mark an epoch in the history of this Institute, for at its close only those who have qualified for the ranks of the Associates will be elected to full membership. Ample provision will be made for the needs of those who thus seek to qualify, and all the necessary educational facilities will be complete.

The Institute intends to take up the question of Education on the basis laid down by the Board of Education and to give it its full support, and I am glad to be able to announce that this being so I have received an intimation from some twelve well-known architects that they are now willing to join the Institute and work with us in advancing by every means in their power this most important question of architectural education.

The new Board of Architectural Education formed for this purpose has, after long deliberation, issued a Report which has been approved by the Council and by all the educational bodies interested. The aims and methods proposed for adoption were admirably set out at one of our meetings by Mr. Reginald Blomfield, A.R.A., one of the Hon. Secretaries. The Board is constituted on a very broad basis, its Advisory Members, for instance, including representatives of the Royal Academy, the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and London, the Board of Education, the London County Council, University College, King's College, the Universities of Liverpool and Manchester, University College, Cardiff, the Architectural Association Day School, and the Architectural Schools of important centres in the country. All these have consented to the proposed scheme, and the co-ordination of the work in the several schools is agreed upon. The importance of the advance thus accomplished can hardly be overstated.

A certain definite standard and right method of architectural training being thus established, it follows that in due course the Board's certificate will form a very valuable asset in the portfolio of the rising architect. However desirable it may be that the style and title of architect should be limited to duly qualified men, it does not seem possible for us to do more at present than undertake to certify that the men who pass through the Board's curriculum and obtain the certificate are acquainted with the essentials of our art and possess certain definite qualifications. The test thus imposed will be a valuable one, not only in the interests of the public, but also of the students themselves.

The latter for the most part recognise their obligation to fit themselves for their work, but the natural impatience or perhaps conceit of youth leads some to think that for them at any rate there may be a short cut to success and fame, forgetting the old adage, "There is no royal road to learning."

Then the question arises, Ought not those who have submitted to an arduous course of

training and passed severe tests to be distinguished in some special manner? This is a matter to be taken into consideration.

In future those who possess a certificate of the Board of Education will certainly be exempted from some of the Institute examinations, though the final examination for membership, and that probably in a modified form, may be reserved; and we may, I think, be sure that the growing power of this Institute as the representative body will bring to its members, according to their grade, whether Fellow or Associate, not only increasing *kudos*, but an ever-larger share of the greatest and best work that may be called for in our art.

The education of the public in the elementary principles of architecture claims our attention at the present time. I know that this idea is regarded by some as utopian, but at any rate there is abundant evidence that people generally take more interest in the subject than they used to. A recently published handbook by Martin Buckmaster, though too archaeological in character, is yet evidence of a demand for information and instruction of a popular rather than technical character.

A Committee was appointed last Session to consider whether anything could be done in this direction, and they came to the conclusion that certain proposals laid before them were not only practicable but capable of an extensive application. A "standard work" issued by the Institute, and directed not so much to the training of the professional student as to furnish information which might with advantage form a part of every educated person's intellectual equipment, would prove of use, not only to the public generally, but also to school teachers and others interested in education.

This question—"The Education of the Public"—together with that of a diploma for architects, and the best methods to be adopted in the laying-out of cities, will engage the attention of the International Congress which is to meet in London in the third week of July in next year.

This will be the seventh such Congress, and the first held in London.

On previous occasions, for the most part, the Congress has been aided by a State subvention; for foreign Governments are alive to the importance of such events from the point of view of the national interests. Our system of government not allowing of such support, we are thrown back, for the success of the Congress, almost entirely on our own enterprise and *esprit de corps*. An earnest appeal is therefore made to all members of the profession in this country to lend a generous aid in this matter, not so much by special donations—though the Executive Committee are by no means too proud to accept them—as by enrolling themselves members of the Congress, whether they see their way to taking part in it personally or not. If the profession generally give the Committee their support, the Committee will see to it that the Congress is not merely a success, but not in anywise inferior in dignity and interest to any that have preceded it.

Other countries have heartily welcomed and hospitably entertained the delegates sent to them, and we must be no less generous in the reception of our foreign *confrères*, the delegates and others who are to honour us with their presence. The Institute is contributing £500; the balance, a pretty heavy one, must be supplied by subscription. A series of visits and entertainments is being arranged, and the Committee are drawing up what they hope will prove a very attractive programme.

When the time comes helpers will be welcomed. In particular the Committee are anxious to enlist the services of any members of the Institute who may be conversant with one or more foreign languages. Three or four gentlemen have already promised their services.

We are looking forward to this Congress as an opportunity of ventilating many interesting questions, and of learning something of the principles and practice adopted in other lands.

We must, however, in comparing foreign methods with our own, take into account the patronage that the State in so many cases extends to the arts, and to architecture especially, abroad.

Hitherto, as I have before pointed out, foreigners have taken but little account of our native architecture. It is only of late years, with increasing facilities of travel and, I may add, the improved relations with other countries which our gracious King and Patron has done so much to foster, that discovery is being made of the many magnificent buildings scattered over the British Isles, many of them possessing a distinction and character not found elsewhere.

In the sphere of domestic architecture particularly we can boast of much that excels anything else of the sort in Europe. From the mansion of the wealthy landowner situated in its own park to the homely cottage of the village labourer or artisan standing in a well-kept garden, often hidden behind the trim hedge of some picturesque lane, our rural landscape possesses a beauty and interest that cannot be surpassed. The atmosphere of peaceful repose in which our country towns and villages so often seem to be bathed—the effect of that reticence and love of seclusion which mark our countrymen—is a surprise, indeed a revelation, to those who have only seen life under other conditions, and possesses irresistible charms and attractions for many who visit us from other lands.

We ourselves have not shown due appreciation of these beauties of our native land. Not only are we, as a nation, fond of travel, but we are wont to extol everything that is foreign and depreciate everything that is our own. Foreigners, naturally enough, have taken us at our own valuation. It has been so in every department of art. Not until a man's work has been approved and commended by other nations is he recognised here as worthy of any honour.

I anticipate that the International Congress will go far to open the eyes of the public to much in their own land that they have not hitherto valued at its true worth. Let us make every effort to welcome our colleagues heartily and to do them all the honour we can, and thus contribute to draw closer the bonds of international esteem and friendship which knit us to them.

I make no apology for bringing before you once again the question of our street architecture in its hygienic aspect. The appearance of our public thoroughfares is commonly regarded as a mere matter of taste, and is not believed to have any bearing upon the health or morals of the people. In my Address last year I laid before you reasons for thinking otherwise, and I again press the matter upon your attention, because the proposals laid before Parliament by the Traffic Commission will, if adopted, afford a splendid opportunity for the application of better principles than have hitherto prevailed in this respect.

The formation of new main avenues and the widening of important thoroughfares to provide greater facilities for locomotion and transport imply new building frontages. Let the façades which are thus to be in the public eye, as it were, for many long years to come, be under proper control from the very first. The owners of land bordering on a public thoroughfare ought not to be at liberty to indulge an ill-regulated fancy for what is bad and false in architecture or vulgar and showy in appearance. Let there be a control set upon private caprice that our street architecture may be marked by that restraint, that unobtrusive simplicity, the result of serious and dignified thought, which may tend to produce like thought in the minds of those who look upon it.

The formation and widening of main arteries in great cities has another aspect. The work no doubt is primarily undertaken to provide for the ever-increasing demands of the traffic; but incidentally it assists materially in bringing a proper air-supply to the crowded

centre. The extension of the tramway system is driving from the suburbs many of the wealthier class who in the past have resided in suburban houses standing in many acres of land. These grounds are now being acquired by the speculating builder, who is busy running up small houses crowded together into the minimum space permitted by the Building Act. Thus the supply of air to the central parts is being blocked in every direction by a zone of over-built suburbs, and the danger in case of an epidemic of a malignant character is increased most seriously.

In some countries—for instance, Germany and the United States—State interference has been invoked to regulate the “extension of cities,” and I am glad to note that the authorities are seriously considering the advisability of similar legislation in respect of the suburbs of London. The attention of the public has been somewhat diverted from this larger subject to what is relatively a minor detail, viz. the character of the small villa residences referred to; but the interest taken in the so-called “garden cities” is evidence of an awakening to the importance of a graduated increase of air-space in proportion as the buildings recede from the centre of the city.

As Sir James Crichton-Browne said at the Sanitary Congress, “it is desirable that we should obtain control of the builder, and prevent the indefinite and unguided growth of the suburbs. We should then construct great leafy avenues, fine broad thoroughfares, stretching away into the immense ocean of beautiful air in the country.”

The laying-out of such avenues and thoroughfares is not entirely and solely a matter for the engineer and borough surveyor. The architect, and in certain cases the painter and sculptor, might with great public advantage be called in to collaborate with them. It is not the best way in such a matter to take an ordnance map and rule a straight line from one point to another. Yet such is, in essence, the course frequently adopted; and should any important building or object of interest come in the way, the engineer's motto is too often like George Stephenson's in respect of the cow that somebody suggested might trespass on his new railway: “So much the worse for the cow!” he is reported to have said.

There is a great deal more to be determined in connection with a new thoroughfare than the most direct route, the necessary gradients, the sanitary and hygienic requirements, &c.; there are artistic possibilities to be taken, as it were, into the public service, such as the opening up of suitable vistas, the bringing into prominence or the screening of existing buildings, the slight turning from the straight line to heighten the effect, or provide places for carriages to stand out of the line of traffic. These and other expedients which have been adopted in some foreign cities with admirable results—as pointed out recently by Mr. John W. Simpson in his interesting paper on the Laying-out of Cities—all fall within the proper function of the architect. So also, I venture to think, do the methods to be adopted in crossing squares and open spaces, and devices for lessening the points of collision from cross traffic, to which he referred.

With reference to divergence from the straight line, I may point out that though the method of straight lines and uniform buildings possesses many merits, and should be rigorously insisted on wherever a dignified approach is demanded, or stately and official requirements render it obviously advisable, yet to be effective this style of treatment must be limited and kept within due proportion to the purpose. Otherwise it ceases to be impressive. Mere repetition spells monotony, and a long straight street is appalling to the pedestrian, so that a break in the line of axis, such as a square or open space, is welcomed as a relief. It is often possible to introduce such features into a scheme with admirable effect and without breaking the line of route.

These are some of the special considerations which would naturally be referred to the architect when associated with the engineer in the laying-out of new streets.

The authorities need to be awakened to the fact that these matters have a commercial aspect which appeals to the practical mind. Art pays when properly handled: not anything and everything that is labelled Art; not the art which vaunts itself, but rather that which is concealed; the art which influences, controls, and satisfies by its sense of fitness; the art which, for instance, concentrates effects or subordinate parts in their relation to the whole; which seizes opportunities, or even difficulties, and turns them to effective account. In such wise can art bring enhanced value to schemes which would otherwise be merely utilitarian, and blank utilitarianism is apt to be disfigured by a brutal directness which is repulsive, or a bare and naked plight which is vulgar.

In the absence of a Minister of Fine Art with duly qualified advisers, an Art Commission similar to that which has been established in New York has been suggested. The Commission referred to has jurisdiction over all designs of municipal buildings, bridges, approaches, gates, fences, lamps, the lines, grades, and plotting of public ways and grounds, arches, structures and approaches, and other similar matters. It must be admitted that such powers as are here indicated can safely be placed only in the best and most capable hands; for, alas! what frauds, if not crimes, are perpetrated in the name of art!

False art has made many mistrust all art, and caused them to shut their eyes to the real value and influence of that which is genuine.

I believe, however, there is a better time coming. It is noteworthy as one passes through the country what an increasingly large proportion of the smaller class of houses have evidently been designed by architects. The builder is discovering that an architect's design is not an expensive and unnecessary luxury, but that the initial outlay is more than repaid if not in the actual building of the house—and this often happens—at any rate in the improved letting which results.

I cannot help remarking too upon the advantage which accrues to the architect himself in the process of studying and designing small houses. It certainly is not very remunerative work, but it has its compensating rewards. Any real advance must no doubt begin in small things before there can be a true appreciation of greater work. As the true qualities of architecture should be equally seen in small as in large buildings, they may perhaps be more easily grasped and understood by way of the less complicated problems.

Increasing knowledge will add to the number of those who appreciate and desire good work, and their sensitiveness in matters of taste will incite the producers to higher efforts, so that by action and reaction our native art will approach a higher level. Let us seek not merely to fan the growing interest in our art, but also to awaken a clear perception of its true qualities. It will not be long, I venture to prophesy, before public opinion will declare itself definitely and decidedly, insisting upon grace and refinement both in our public buildings and our important thoroughfares. Given such an opportunity, we may feel confident that our national architecture will not fail under the test, but will reflect the highest and noblest qualities of our race.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT.

SIR JOHN THORNYCROFT, LL.D., F.R.S.: Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel much honoured in being asked to propose a vote of thanks for the Address which we have now heard, and which I feel is of great interest. It touches on so many points, and so broadly, that it must arouse thoughts within us as to the propriety of things to which previously our attention had not been called. I feel this, that the architect has a great responsibility. We are largely indebted to him for our comfort, though he must not make us too comfortable, or we shall stop indoors longer than is good for us. I myself am an architect—a naval architect, and I feel this sad disadvantage, that while the architects of our houses on land add to our comfort, it is sometimes said that the temporary abodes we have on the sea adds greatly to our discomfort! With regard to what has been brought before us, there is one topic on which I should like to make a few remarks. I am glad to learn that our roadways are within the province of the architect; but the architect is so glad to have lots of ground to build on, that sometimes he encroaches on what I think should be the thoroughfare. In London we are widening our roads as far as we can, but I remember many places—the Euston Road for instance—where the houses were set back with a considerable amount of ground in front of them in the original plan; but unfortunately that has been departed from, and the buildings have been brought nearer the centre and a row of posts have been put down the middle, and any poor automobilist like myself who wants to get along the road now finds it very difficult. I feel that it is no good having handsome buildings to look at if there is no space to see them. There is another point which has not been alluded to in this Address—that is protection from fire. There have been one or two occasions when London has been really in danger, when all the resources of the fire brigade have been combating a large area of fire which had it spread a little more might have had serious and most alarming consequences. Not only for health but for safety from fire there should be provided green avenues through London, which would be most agreeable and would add to the safety of our city. There is another point I should like to call your attention to as an automobilist. The horse is rapidly disappearing in London, and a new condition is arising. When we are confined to horse power for propulsion through a town a hill is a great obstacle. When we are mechanically propelled through a city, where there are great cross tracks—such as at Park Lane and some other

places—it has been proposed by one of our eminent engineers that one line of traffic should go over the other. I should like to support that idea. If the inclination of the road is not beyond a certain amount (and that certain amount may be defined as the amount which is limited to propelling the vehicle at the speed required), the moderate inclination which may be used to cross one road by another is not extravagant at all if you do not have to put a break on going downhill. If you have the hill so adapted as to give the propelling power downhill, you will then about double the power necessary to get up; but it is only for half the time, so that the consumption of power is the same; and you get this advantage, that the one stream of traffic crosses the other without inconvenience and without stoppage. You may depend upon it the day is coming when we shall travel through cities much more rapidly, and the increase of speed necessary to give good roads for rapid transit will bring large tracts of big cities nearer together. I will not dilate further on this subject, but desire to say that I feel we are greatly indebted to our President, and I thank you very much for listening to what I have had to say.

SIR ARTHUR RÜCKER, D.Sc., F.R.S., Principal of London University: Mr. President, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I feel very much honoured by being called upon on a second occasion, after so short an interval, to take part in your proceedings, and I can only hope, as I think I hinted last time, that it is a sign of a growing closeness in the relations between the University and this great Institute. May I add one word, Sir, to a topic which has been already referred to several times this evening. Only twice in the course of my life have I had anything to do with the designing, or helping to design, a great building! One of those is comparatively recent; the other was when I was a quite young and unknown man; and then it was that my colleagues and I found Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, as architect of the Yorkshire College, to be one of the kindest men anyone could have to deal with; one who was ready to take hints from those who were many years his juniors and were only just entering on life. With regard to your Address, Sir, naturally the point which interests me most is the reference you made to the completion of the scheme of education on which I know the Royal Institute of British Architects has been busy for several years. I myself can bear personal testimony to the fact that every detail of that scheme has been considered most fully and thoroughly, and I can only congratulate you heartily on having

brought it to a conclusion. I sincerely hope that it may be a very great success, and that it may come to be regarded as the course through which the would-be architect must go. I am spending the greater part of my life at present in trying to co-ordinate various divergent interests and institutions, and I can only say that to me it is a very great pleasure to find that you, who I know had some difficulties at first, have succeeded in bringing to birth a scheme which has united various opinions, and that you have succeeded, as you told us to-night, in obtaining, not only the consent of the Institute, but the consent of a number of distinguished architects, all of whom, if I am not wrong, did not previously belong to it. This is a great work to have accomplished, and I am very glad that you have been good enough to associate the University with the Institute. You have associated it by means of a threefold cord: you have associated the University itself; you have brought in University College, which next year, in consequence of an Act of Parliament passed last Session, will be part of our University; and you have also brought in King's College, with whom we are at present negotiating, and in hopes that a similar happy result may be achieved. Therefore I am extremely glad that not only the Central University itself, but two institutions, of which one is and the other we hope may be in the closest connection with it, are united in this scheme. I am well aware that the relation of architectural to university education is a delicate and thorny question into which I will not enter to-night; but whatever is the body which conducts the education, and whatever is the institute which controls it, I believe that the main lines on which technical education is to be carried out must be laid down by the great masters of the art to which that education is intended to lead. I do not think it is right that outsiders should dictate how those who are to follow in your distinguished steps are to be taught, and I am delighted to find that so great a technical institution has taken a definite lead in providing education for those who are

to be the architects of the future. May I say that I thoroughly sympathise with Sir John Thornycroft in what he has said as to the way in which we are all compelled to take an interest in architecture? I remember hearing an admirable speech by the late Bishop Creighton, I think at one of your dinners, in which he used a phrase which stuck in my mind, viz. that architecture is the most democratic of all the arts; that it goes literally into the market place; that it is for everybody, and that rich and poor alike may enjoy it. I cannot attempt to quote the felicitous phrases in which he elaborated the theme, but the theme itself is one which I think we may all remember. All of us, whatever our line in life may be, rich or poor, humble or noble, owe a great deal to the architect, and if he fails in his task we fail to attain something which life might otherwise have given us. May I once more thank you for the opportunity you have given me of speaking on this occasion, and say that I wish every success to the great educational scheme which the Institute has devised.

THE PRESIDENT: Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for listening to me so patiently, and I thank Sir John Thornycroft for his remarks. As he states, he is a "brother architect" who has made things uncomfortable on the ocean, but I can assure him we on our side always do our best to make things as comfortable at home as we can. I am very much indebted to Sir Arthur Rücker for his valuable remarks on education and his compliments on the establishment of the Board of Architectural Education. I can assure him that we shall do our best to co-operate with him and others in the education of the architect at least. I think I ought to apologise to our visitors for the rather lengthy reference which I have been compelled to make to our own doings and affairs, but it seems inevitable on occasions like this. Moreover, in my effort to be "exhaustive" I fear I may also have been "exhausting," and I am glad to be able to add that provision is made for your recovery in the refreshment room downstairs, to which I now invite you.



9, CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., 11th Nov. 1905.

CHRONICLE

The Opening Meeting.

There was a large and representative assemblage of members and their friends, including several ladies, at the Opening Meeting last Monday. Among the senior members present were three of the four surviving past Presidents—Sir Aston Webb, R.A., Sir William Emerson, and Mr. J. Macvicar Anderson. The President's Address was followed with interest and appreciation, and was warmly applauded at its close. His announcement that several distinguished members of the profession who had hitherto held aloof had signified their willingness to join the Institute and lend their aid in furtherance of the cause of architectural education, was received with hearty applause. For the information of those interested it may be mentioned that the Report of the Board of Architectural Education referred to by the President as having now been issued will be found printed in the prefatory pages ix-xv of the Institute KALENDAR.

The late Alfred Waterhouse, C. Forster Hayward, and Charles Lucas.

The proceedings at the meeting last Monday opened with the announcement by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Alexander Graham, F.S.A., of the names of members deceased since the last meeting of the Institute on the 3rd July. The gaps in their ranks, he regretted to say, had been considerable, demanding something more from him than the mere formal announcement. The first on the list was the name of their Past President, Alfred Waterhouse, who passed away on the 22nd August, after a distinguished career full of honour to himself, and who was the recipient of many tokens of respect and admiration for his work as an architect and in other respects which had been alluded to in recent communications to the Institute JOURNAL. It was not within his province that evening to speak at any length of the distinguished career of their late lamented colleague. But he should like to say a few words with regard to his remarkable personality; his grace and charm of manner, which never seemed to fail him in his

communications with his fellow-men; his kindness and generosity to those who were associated with him in his daily work; his helpfulness and courtesy to members of the Institute who sought his advice on matters he was so competent to advise upon—matters connected with the building arts, of which he was so thorough a master. He might also speak of his life-long loyalty to the Institute—loyalty to its aims, loyalty to its aspirations, and loyalty to its operations. A letter had been already sent on behalf of the Council to his relatives, but he was sure the Institute as a body would wish to send a letter of sympathy with Mrs. Waterhouse and the family, expressing their heartfelt regret at his loss, and their appreciation of his excellent work—of the many monuments of architectural skill he had left behind him, and of the great and valuable services he had rendered the Institute during his long and successful career. He would put the matter as a formal Resolution. He was sure that no words of his could add to what was in the hearts of all, that they had lost in Alfred Waterhouse a great friend and a distinguished man. The vote having been passed in silence, Mr. Graham appealed to them all to hold in pleasant memory the name of Alfred Waterhouse.

Continuing, Mr. Graham said there was another name, equally familiar to them, of one who had passed away on the 5th July—Charles Forster Hayward, spending his last days in the pleasant retreat he had made for himself at the old Guest Hall at Lingfield, in Surrey, pleasant to so many of his intimate friends who had enjoyed there not only a hearty welcome, but very great hospitality on many occasions. Of the active career of Mr. Forster Hayward they all knew well, but perhaps their connection with him was more associated with his duties as District Surveyor, a post he held for a long period of years, having passed the examination as far back as 1857. He might go back some forty years ago when Hayward, in conjunction with John Pollard Seddon, acted as Hon. Secretary of the Institute, at a time when the Institute was in its infancy, or rather its youth, and when there was a great deal of work to do, which had had the most satisfactory results. He thought they should offer to Mrs. Hayward and the family some expression of sympathy with them in their bereavement, and appreciation of the services their lamented colleague had rendered the Institute in bygone days, and also their recognition of his work and his merit during a long and active career.

Having read out the other names on the list, all of which will be found recorded in the Minutes [page 20], Mr. Graham went on to speak of the irreparable loss the Institute had sustained by the death of M. Charles Lucas, whose name was so familiar to them. They all remembered from time to time when he visited London his cheery presence and the interest he took in their work—he might say the interest he took in

the work of the architects of all countries. He had passed away from them, but his memory would remain with them because he was one of the very few who were always prompt and ready with any information they wished to obtain, not only with reference to Paris, but to every part of France. No one who had ever come in contact with Charles Lucas and his delightful presence could ever forget him.—Sir William Emerson, *Past President*, having asked that a letter should be sent from the Institute to the family of M. Lucas expressing their sympathy and condolence, the President replied that such a message had already been sent by the Council on behalf of the Institute. The attention of members is directed to the Memoir of M. Lucas kindly contributed to the present number by M. Auguste Choisy.

**Seventh International Congress of Architects,
London 1906: Subjects for Discussion.**

The attention of members who were unable to be present at the Opening Meeting last Monday is particularly drawn to the President's remarks in the Address [pp. 5, 6] with reference to the Congress to be held in London from the 16th to the 21st July next year. Arrangements for the Congress are now in active preparation. The following are among the subjects to be brought forward for discussion:—

1. The Execution of important Government and Municipal Architectural Work by Salaried Officials.
2. Architectural Copyright and the Ownership of Drawings.
3. Steel and Reinforced Concrete Construction :
 - (a) The General Aspects of the subject.
 - (b) With special reference to the Æsthetic and Hygienic Considerations in the case of very high buildings.
4. The Education of the Public in Architecture.
5. A Statutory Qualification for Architects.
6. The Architect-Craftsman: How far should the Architect receive the theoretical and practical training of a craftsman?
7. The Planning and Laying-out of Streets and Open Spaces in Cities.
8. Should the Architect have supreme control over other artists or craftsmen in the completion of a National or Public Building?
9. The Responsibilities of a Government in the Conservation of National Monuments.

The Executive Committee will be glad to receive Papers on any of the above subjects for presentation to the Congress. Papers can be written in English, French, or German. Each Paper must be accompanied by an abstract of not more than 1,000 words. Papers and Abstracts must reach the Executive Committee before the 30th April, so as to allow time for printing.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary of the Executive Committee, 9 Conduit Street, London, W.

The Statutory Examinations: October 1905.

The Annual Examination of Candidates seeking qualification to act as District Surveyors under the London Building Act 1894, or as Building Surveyors under Local Authorities, was held by the Institute, pursuant to statute, on the 19th and 20th ult. Eighteen candidates presented themselves for examination—fourteen in the former category and four in the latter. The following passed and have been granted by the Council Certificates of Competency to act as District Surveyors under the London Building Act, viz.—

FILLARY, ANTHONY ALBERT; of 9 Denmark Street, London Bridge.

KNIGHT, EDGAR WALSH; of Birkbeck Bank Chambers, Holborn.

PALSER, EDWIN; of 160 Acre Lane, Brixton.

SPECER, HARRY TOM BODEN [A.]; of 11 Sunningfield Road, Hendon.

WOODWARD, ALEXANDER LIONEL; of 9 Kennington Oval.

The following has been granted a Certificate of Competency to act as Building Surveyor under Local Authorities:—

STANTON, WILLIAM JOHN; of 78 Hamplén Road, Hornsey.

The Visit to Newcastle-on-Tyne and Annual Dinner.

The visit of members to Newcastle-on-Tyne in the second week of October will be remembered by all who took part in it as a most interesting and agreeable excursion. The Northern Architectural Association, which has its headquarters in the city, had undertaken the preparation of the programme, and very admirably were its details planned and carried through by a Committee of the Association under the direction of their Hon. Secretary. The thanks of members will be warmly accorded to this Committee and the various officers of the Association, to the Mayor and Mayoress and the members of the City Council, to the gentlemen whose ciceronage contributed so largely to the interest and enjoyment of the various visits and excursions, and especially to the energetic Hon. Secretary of the Association, Mr. A. B. Plummer [F.]. Members were the recipients of much hospitality and many courtesies, and they could not but be sensible of the time, care, and thought that had been so freely lavished to ensure their comfort and entertainment, and the success of the meeting also as a professional gathering.

The main body of London visitors travelled down by an early afternoon train on Thursday the 12th, to arrive in time for the reception given in honour of the Institute by the Mayor of Newcastle (Alderman J. Baxter Ellis) and the Mayoress in the Grand Assembly Rooms. A large and distinguished company were present, including, besides members of the profession, the Sheriff of Newcastle and Mrs. Scott, Alderman Sir W. H. Stephenson, Alderman Newton, Dr. H. E. Armstrong, Sir

George Hare Philipson, Alderman W. De Lacy Willson, the Mayors of Gateshead, Jarrow, Tynemouth, and Wallsend, and various members of the Newcastle City Council—in all some four hundred guests were present. The rooms were tastefully decorated with palms and festoons of plants and flowers, and a selection of music was played during the evening by the Royal Orchestra of the City.

The programme for Friday the 13th included an excursion on the Tyne, luncheon with the Northern Architectural Association, visits to historic and other buildings of interest in Newcastle, afternoon tea at the formal opening of the new Rooms of the Association, and the R.I.B.A. Annual Dinner. For the Tyne excursion a steamer had been courteously placed at the disposal of the Institute by the Tyne Commissioners. The visitors had been increased by numerous arrivals from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, and other Northern cities, and a considerable company joined the excursion. After a run up the river beyond the Elswick Works the steamer returned and took on board more visitors, and then proceeded down the river to Tynemouth. Landing at the North Pier, a thoughtfully provided covered-in conveyance to the Haven preserved the visitors from an inevitable drenching by the spray of the heavy seas dashing against the pier. The interesting remains of the old Priory having been inspected, the party entered the Lady Chapel and listened to a brief sketch of the history of the Priory from Canon Hicks, Vicar of Tynemouth Priory. Further particulars of the building, illustrated by a plan, were given by Mr. W. H. Knowles [F.]. The return journey to Newcastle was made by electric train.

Luncheon at the invitation of the N.A.A. took place in the Grand Assembly Rooms, Barras Bridge, Mr. James T. Cackett, President, in the Chair. The toast of "The N.A.A." was proposed by the Institute President and briefly responded to by Mr. Cackett. In the afternoon the following buildings were visited under the guidance of Mr. R. O. Heslop and Mr. A. B. Plummer:—St. Nicholas' Cathedral, the Black Gate and Crypt, the Castle Keep and Library of the Society of Antiquaries, the Guildhall, Trinity House, and All Saints' Church. Mr. Parker Brewis gave an interesting description of relics preserved in the Castle, and conducted some of the party over the old gatehouse. Canon Carr, Vicar of All Saints', showed various objects of antiquarian and historic note preserved in his church.

Afternoon tea was taken in the new rooms of the Northern Architectural Association in Higham Place. Mr. Cackett presided, and in a brief address stated that the Association was established in the year 1858, and that was the first occasion they had ever met in premises of which the freehold was their own. It seemed, he said, extremely appropriate that they should have the honour of entertaining the President, Council, and so many members of the R.I.B.A. at this time. They were

very much indebted to their old friend and past President, Mr. Glover, for his generous benefactions. Roughly speaking, he had given £967 towards the building, and, in addition to that, they had had £350 subscribed, making the total cost of the premises about £1,330. They hoped to get more money to make the rooms more suitable. Mr. Glover had also presented them with £500, the interest to be devoted to educational work in the form of studentships. The upper rooms would be used as a library, for which they were again indebted to Mr. Glover. In the upper rooms classes would be held and the Institute examinations take place. Mr. Cackett expressed the pleasure it had given the Association to receive the Institute, and hoped the visitors would go away with pleasant recollections of Newcastle.

Mr. John Belcher, A.R.A., referred to Mr. Glover's splendid gifts, and said he should like to have seen Mr. Glover there that day to thank him, not only for giving so much towards those rooms and the work that was done there, but also for his gifts to architecture generally. He hoped these gifts for educational purposes would bear good fruit, and that many good architects would be produced in Newcastle in the future, as there had been in the past. Mr. Belcher then formally declared the rooms open.

The Laing Art Gallery, a new building from the designs of Messrs. Cackett & Dick, was afterwards visited.

The Annual Dinner of the Institute was held in the evening at the Old Assembly Rooms, Westgate Road. The President, Mr. John Belcher, A.R.A., presided, and the company numbered between 130 and 140 guests. The President was supported on his right by the Duke of Northumberland, K.G.; Sir Aston Webb, R.A., *Past President*; Mr. Henry T. Hare, *Vice-President*; Sir George Hare Philipson, M.D.; Sir Walter R. Plummer, M.P.; Mr. John Slater [F.]; and the Mayor of Tynemouth. On the left of the President were the Bishop of Newcastle; Mr. J. T. Cackett (President of the Northern Architectural Association); the Deputy-Mayor of Newcastle, Mr. Edwin T. Hall (*Vice-President*); Mr. George Renwick, M.P.; Mr. T. E. Colclutt [F.]; and the Mayor of Gateshead. The other guests included Messrs. Maurice B. Adams, Dr. Armstrong, Harry Barnes [A.], E. R. Barrow [A.], C. E. Bateman [F.], J. A. Bean, Geo. Bell, J. W. Benwell and guest, Hippolyte J. Blanc, R.S.A. [F.], J. W. Boyd, J. W. B. Boyd, Parker Brewis, C. H. Brodie [F.], G. T. Brown, P. L. Brown, J. Bruce, G. B. Bulmer [F.] (President Leeds and Yorkshire Architectural Society), J. J. Burnett, A.R.S.A. [F.], W. D. Caröe, M.A., F.S.A. [F.], John Cash [F.], W. A. Chamberlin, H. C. Charlewood [F.], R. F. Chisholm [F.], A. H. Crawford [F.], A. W. S. Cross, M.A. [F.], W. St. L. Crowley [A.], H. Davis [F.], R. Burns Dick, F. M. Dryden, Cyril Dyson, J. W. Dyson, C. S. Errington [A.], W. E. Fenwicke, C. B. Flock-

ton [F.], J. E. Franck [A.], J. Garry [F.], Sir Alfred Gelder [F.], Alexander Graham, F.S.A. (Hon. Sec. R.I.B.A.), M. H. Graham, Henry Grieves [A.], F. H. A. Hardcastle [A.], F. E. L. Harris [A.], Stockdale Harrison [F.], F. R. N. Haswell [F.], H. T. D. Hedley, J. M. Henry [F.], J. W. Herring, J. J. Hill, C. C. Hodges, E. Francis Hooper, Francis Hooper [F.], Jesse Horsfall, Geo. Hubbard [F.], the Mayor of Jarrow, John Keppie [F.] (President Glasgow Institute of Architects), W. H. Knowles [F.], Robert Kynoch, C. F. Lloyd, W. J. Locke (Secretary R.I.B.A.), F. W. Marks [F.], Leonard Martin [F.], M. G. Martinson, G. A. T. Middleton [A.], T. R. Milburn [F.], W. Milburn [F.], J. B. Mitchell-Withers [F.], J. H. Morton [F.], C. F. Newcombe [A.], W. Lister Newcombe [F.], J. L. Nicholson, G. D. Oliver, W. W. Oliver, H. Oswald, Joseph Oswald [F.], S. Perkins Pick [F.], Arthur B. Plummer (Hon. Sec. N.A.A.) [F.], A. N. Prentice [F.], Norman Ramsey, Geo. Reavell [A.], Matt. Reed [A.], Frank W. Rich [F.], Roland Rich, S. D. Robins, T. Taylor Scott [F.], Geo. Sherrin [F.], E. Shrewbrooks [F.], John W. Simpson [F.], G. R. Smith [A.], J. Osborne Smith [F.], Prof. R. Elsey Smith [F.], A. Saxon Snell [F.], J. Spain, A. W. Tanner [A.], H. O. Tarbolton (President Edinburgh Architectural Association) [F.], A. K. Tasker, Andrew T. Taylor [F.], J. Walton Taylor [F.], H. Temperley, W. Tweedie, R. P. S. Twizell [A.], J. W. Wardle, John White [A.], W. Henry White [F.], Butler Wilson [F.], John B. Wilson [A.], Alderman John M. Winter, G. P. K. Young [A.].

During the evening a selection of music was excellently rendered by the band of the Northumberland Hussars. The toasts, besides the usual loyal toasts, were restricted to two—viz. "The Royal Institute of British Architects and Allied Societies" and "The Guests."

The Duke of Northumberland proposed "The Royal Institute of British Architects and the Allied Societies." He said that, speaking for the Allied Society in the Newcastle district, they offered a hearty welcome to the Institute. They welcomed them to the North country, and, so far as he could understand from the proceedings of the day, they had done their best to show them as much of Tyneside as they could, and had given them every facility besides for catching cold; for he could not understand why they should have selected the coldest weather of the season so far, though that was no doubt a circumstance beyond their control. If, on the other hand, he was to speak for the Institute, he should say that the local Associations were a matter of great interest to the Institute, and that it was by strengthening its local Associations that the real work of the Institute was to be carried on. And if he was to speak—and that he supposed was his proper function—for the general public, who belonged neither to the Allied Societies nor to the Institute, all he could say was that the public recognised very warmly the good work

which both were doing, and they were very glad to see the architects making themselves acquainted, so far as possible, with the requirements of all parts, and, on the other hand, placing their knowledge and experience at the disposal of the public. He sometimes thought that for the young man who adopted the career of an architect there must be food for great discouragement. He did not think that any young architect could hope to do very much better, say, in ecclesiastical architecture than people did five hundred years ago. And perhaps he was prejudiced because he happened to live in a castle—but he very much doubted, so far as the æsthetic side of military architecture was concerned, whether they could do much better than some gentlemen of their craft of former days had done in that direction. When they came to rather later times, and looked at their fine old English manor houses—doubtless the modern architect might give them fewer steps to go up and down, and their sanitary arrangements might be better; but he very much doubted—if they would forgive him the scepticism—whether they could give them anything more picturesque or more thoroughly English. Therefore he said to the young architect, if he reflected in this way, he might be a little bit discouraged. But if he would go on a step further, he thought the young architect would find a great field for his ingenuity and his study even in this matter-of-fact twentieth century. He saw present among them many representatives of great municipalities, and he would venture to suggest that England in the old days did not shine particularly in her great public buildings. Of course they had some very fine public buildings—Westminster Hall, for example, and other buildings of that sort—of which they were all very proud; but he thought, as compared with foreign nations, England was in ancient times rather deficient in public buildings, and he believed that in that direction there was a great field for ingenuity and genius. But there was a still higher field for their efforts in perhaps what some at first sight might call a humble line, but one which he believed was at least as important as any other they could engage in. He referred to the housing of the masses of the population throughout these realms. That was a problem which was not always submitted to the architect. It was too often left to the builder. And he presumed it was at least one of the functions of the Institute so to model and educate public opinion, and still more to educate the opinion of the profession, as to secure that standard of building which would provide the people with dwellings equal to the civilisation we professed to have attained to. That was a problem which had not yet been solved. Whether it was solvable or not he did not know. He could only say, as one who had tried to a certain extent to build houses, that to build a good, sanitary, comfortable house for the working classes at a price

which would pay a reasonable return on the outlay was, he would not say impossible, but very difficult indeed. It seemed to him that in this direction there was a large field for the genius of the rising generation of architects. If the architect had no chance of exceeding the ability of his ancestors in the æsthetic side of art, there were claims upon him now which did not exist in the days when they cared very little how the poorer classes of the population were housed, and he had now at his disposal all the stores of appliances, all the stores of materials, which those who preceded him had not. There was another opening he would allude to, viz. the opening which was afforded by the zeal of the Board of Education. The Board of Education imposed upon local authorities a very large number of buildings, and he did not think they always grasped the full necessities of the case; but he would suggest that the members of the Institute, and those whom they trained, might very well devote, as they no doubt did, a great part of their attention to assisting local bodies in the effort of meeting the requirements of the Board of Education at some reasonable rate, and without the necessity of disfiguring the landscape with horrible structures of which he did not think any of them would approve. He could only express on behalf of those for whom he spoke their sense of the services which the Institute rendered, not merely to art, but also to absolute and essential necessities of life. It was by the exertions they had made, by the success of their efforts, by their energy in such visits as they were now making, that they confidently believed the architects were attaining to a high standard of architectural work and science. There was no doubt an unlimited field for their exertions in the future. He was sure of this, however, there was no body of men upon whom the welfare of the country so much depended as on those who had charge of the buildings in which they lived and had to transact their business.

The President, in responding, said they appreciated the manner in which his Grace had spoken of their work and the matters which concerned them so deeply—the housing of the poor, education, and other matters they had so much at heart—and no doubt his words would bear fruit. As the representative body, the Institute realised its responsibilities, and recognised that any advance in their position as architects would be as the members of the Allied Societies and of the Institute stood shoulder to shoulder. Art flourished best in an atmosphere of peace, and their work would excel as they cultivated cordial and brotherly relations. They might have differences of opinion sometimes, but these, he thought, might be regarded as a sign of healthy vitality. They might differ, for instance, with regard to registration, but they were all agreed that the education and training of the architect was absolutely necessary. Ample provision was being made for such education and

training. All they had to do was to find sufficient inducement for the qualification. The Council of the Institute had no intention of allowing this matter to rest, and they had already appointed a sub-committee to take evidence and to consider the possibility of coming to a conclusion which would satisfy all. He regretted that the Mayor, having to attend another function, was not able to be present with them that evening. But he wished publicly to thank his Worship and the Mayoress for their kind reception of the members of the Institute on the previous evening. It was satisfactory to feel that the Institute was in close touch with the municipal authorities everywhere; that, owing to the nature of their work and training, they were able to give good counsel and advice and assistance, and to co-operate with the municipal authorities in those public works which were for the good of the community at large. They were always willing, as architects, to furnish voluntarily advice and assistance in such matters as occasion might arise. He also wished to thank those gentlemen who had done so much to make their visit pleasant. Newcastle was a city of great interest to them. It had been regarded, he believed, as a dull, black place, but they found it full of picturesque beauty. The first objects that caught their eyes as they approached the city were the old Norman "Keep" and the lantern tower of St. Nicholas' Cathedral, whose beautiful corona was not excelled by any of its rivals. The buildings which rose from the water's edge in serried ranks were worthy of being seen and studied from various points of view. Looking down from that wonderful engineering achievement, the railway viaduct, whether by day or in the dusk of the evening when the lights of the shipping mingled with the lights upon the shore and the hillside, the view was romantic and fascinating. The bridge itself embodied all that was attractive in engineering work. Its boldness, its daring, its directness of purpose, all appealed to them. He had no doubt that when Stephenson's work was in progress it must have very much astonished the citizens of Newcastle, and have alarmed them lest it should destroy the appearance of their city. But he could not help feeling that the bridge was an addition to its attractiveness, as much, perhaps, as its usefulness had added to the importance and prosperity of the city.

Mr. J. T. Cackett, President of the Northern Architectural Association, responding on behalf of the Allied Societies, said the objects of the Allied Societies and of the Institute were the same—viz. to encourage the association of architects throughout the country and to advance the knowledge of the art and science of architecture. But there was this difference between them, that the Allied Societies worked in a very much humbler sphere. The R.I.B.A. worked in the metropolis of the world, and the Northern Architectural Association worked in the northern metropolis of Eng-

land. So far as education was concerned, they had excellent facilities at the College of Science for passing through the curriculum of the Royal Institute; and, in addition, the Northern Architectural Association held classes and offered prizes, and they were advancing very steadily, he might say, in the way of education of the future generation of architects. He had no doubt that the other Allied Societies were also making progress in this direction. Another difference between them he should like to allude to; the President had already referred to it: the London County Council was consulting the architects with regard to new streets and thoroughfares and other improvements in the metropolis. It was very pleasant to note the results of that consultation and the effect of the advice that had been given. He expressed the hope that all local authorities would adopt the same principle. He was sure that nothing but good would follow.

Sir Aston Webb, R.A., proposed the toast of "The Guests." He said he was honoured by being entrusted with the "other toast of the evening." They were all delighted to see their guests there. But he felt very like a guest himself rather than a host. Their Newcastle friends had been so kind to them that he really thought they had been their hosts and the members of the Institute had been their guests. But for the moment he would ask them kindly to consider themselves as their guests. They were grateful to the Duke of Northumberland for coming there and speaking as he had done. It would ill become him in that northern city to say anything about his Grace, but they in the South also knew him as the wise and sagacious President of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and that in many other ways he had always shown himself ready to take an interest in and to devote his time to the welfare of the people. They were honoured also in having representatives of the Church and the State and the municipalities. The Church, in which they recognised a generous and discriminating patron, was represented by the Bishop of Newcastle, and they thanked him also for coming among them. They had had the delight of visiting the cathedral and of seeing for themselves the tower which had always won the enthusiastic admiration of architects as being a unique example in the daring of its construction and in the grace and beauty of its design. And they had all delighted in the exquisite woodwork of the interior by the late Mr. Johnston, admirably carried out by Mr. Ralph Hedley. He felt sure that any city would be proud of having two citizens who could beautify their city by work which would remain the object of admiration for centuries to come. They had also representatives of the city in the members of Parliament, whom they also thanked for having come. Architects, he supposed, were not especially active in politics, but they certainly, as Englishmen, admired the self-denying labours of their members

of Parliament, and consoled with them in the late hours they had to keep. There were some among them who seemed inclined to add to those labours by asking Parliament to take some interest in their affairs. Personally he was bound to say that he thought they had already enough to do; and perhaps it would be better if they tried instead to manage their own affairs; but that was another story. They had also representatives of the great municipalities there, and he thought, as the Duke of Northumberland had said, that they must look in the future—and they architects naturally did look—to the municipalities for the greater portion of their work, for the great builders of the future would be the great municipalities. He had heard it whispered that Newcastle had its castle in the air, and that some day it would take form in the shape of a new town hall. But, at any rate, they took an interest in almost all the work which their municipalities had to do, and they recognised the care that they took for relieving the poor and for providing clean, healthy, and sanitary dwellings. They looked to them also, and believed that in time they would turn their attention to the beautifying of their towns. Architects believed that it was the duty of the municipality not only to attend to hygienic matters, but also to provide spots of beauty in every town where men could come out and breathe the air and see the sky, and the green trees, the fountains and the flowers in their beauty and colour—some spot where men could pass through with a smile. He was afraid that in some of our towns at present men were apt to pass through with a sigh on their lips, or something even worse; and they hurried through them without any feeling of hope, and left them without regret. There was a dull monotony about our towns, though architects were ready to place their services at the disposal of municipal corporations; and each city had its own men of taste, architects and others, who were able and willing to advise them on these public improvements. They certainly hoped that in future their municipalities would avail themselves of that advice, and that, even if they had to come upon the rates for something, the æsthetic side should not be altogether forgotten.

The Bishop of Newcastle, responding for the Guests, said they considered it an honour and delight to have been among them that evening. Personally it was no little pleasure to him to be associated in that or in any other way with such a noble profession as he believed theirs to be. Some of his best friends in life had belonged to their profession, and he owed a great deal, in more ways than one, to those of their profession whom he had had the pleasure of knowing. But, apart from that, he thought they owed a very great debt of gratitude to the architect's noble profession—certainly, speaking for his own part, Church folk, and clergy amongst Church folk most of all. What did they not owe to those who had devoted

their noblest conceptions to the ennobling of the human kind? He had said that their art was a noble one, for surely anything was noble which tended to the elevating and ennobling of other people. And if it be true, as he held it to be true, that a thing of beauty—whatever it might be and wherever they might have it—had an ennobling influence, then he thought that architecture must hold the very highest place in these highest fields of beauty. He believed—indeed, he knew it from his own experience to be a fact—that beautiful buildings in the most abject surroundings of poverty and misery had a very far-reaching and ennobling effect. And he thought a beautiful church must have the most ennobling effect of any building they could put up. A beautiful building would appeal, almost unconsciously, to the passer-by, and it was this that made them so indebted to their profession. He should even be tempted to envy the possessor of the mind and heart that could conceive any great thing: the man of science when he felt himself on the brink of a great discovery, the joy and excitement of feeling that he was not only to be a discoverer, but that by his discovery he was to exercise an enormous influence for good amongst his fellows; the musician who could conceive beautiful pieces of music; the painter who could conceive some magnificent picture; and the architect who could conceive in his mind some magnificent idea, like some beautiful cathedral. He was sure they would sympathise with him when he said he pitied very much the architect who had a great idea in his mind and was not allowed to work it out; or if when the work was growing under his hand in the middle of it fresh ideas came to him he was not enabled to embody them. That must be a very irritating thing, and one of the chief difficulties to men of their position. He urged that in the work of educating the younger men who were entering the profession they should keep before them a high ideal. The higher the profession, the greater the fall if they allowed themselves to get down from the high ideals. It should be their aim to think, not what they could get out of it, but what they could put into it.

For Saturday, the 14th, arrangements had been made for visits to Durham Cathedral and to Hexham Abbey. As it was not possible, however, in the time at disposal for the same party to visit both places, and as the majority expressed a preference for Durham, the Hexham excursion was by general consent practically abandoned. The tour of the Cathedral was made under the happiest auspices. Mr. G. Hodgson Fowler [F.], architect to the diocese, who acted as cicerone, has the history of the building at his fingers' ends and an intimate acquaintance with almost every stone of the venerable fabric. The visitors were favoured by their guide with an historical sketch of the building and a description of the vicissitudes it

had passed through since its foundation. Every nook and corner was visited, and every feature of interest pointed out and explained. After luncheon the visitors were shown over Durham Castle, again under Mr. Fowler's appreciated guidance.

Except for the weather—which was perhaps a little too Arctic to be altogether enjoyable by the Southerner—it is satisfactory to note that the excursion to the Northern city is pronounced a success by all who participated in it.

Mr. William Glover's Gift to the Laing Art Gallery.

To celebrate the visit of the Institute to Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mr. Wm. Glover [F.], Past President of the Northern Architectural Association, has offered to the Corporation of Newcastle a sum of £500 in trust to invest and apply the income therefrom to the purchase of works of art by local artists to be added to the Laing Art Gallery. Local artists, he suggests, should be taken to be those of Newcastle, Northumberland, and Durham.

Collaboration of Sculptor and Architect.

It is a hopeful sign of the progress of the arts in this country that an architect should have been called in to collaborate with the sculptor in designing the monument to Mr. Gladstone just opened to public view in the Strand by Aldwych. The importance of sculptor and architect working together has been often insisted on at the Institute. As was admitted by an eminent sculptor in the rooms of the Institute only a few months ago, some sculptors do not understand what architecture is, and dreadful mistakes have been made owing to their want of proper architectural feeling. Mr. John Stevens Lee, who is responsible for the architectural details of Mr. Hamo Thornycroft's statue to Mr. Gladstone, is a young Associate of the Institute who won the Tite Prize a few years ago.

Exhibition of Architectural Refinements.

Mr. L. Ingleby Wood, Hon. Secretary of the above Exhibition, held under the auspices of the Edinburgh Architectural Association, writes that should any members of the Institute require copies of the Exhibition Catalogue they should apply personally to him at an early date, as there are only a few for disposal. The book is not only a Catalogue of the Exhibition, but an exhaustive treatise upon the subject of Architectural Refinements. The price, with postage, is 1s. 4d., and payment should be made by P.O. or cheque. Mr. Wood's address is 122 George Street, Edinburgh.

Coal Smoke Abatement.

The question of finding some practical means for abating the nuisance caused by smoke will be discussed by members of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Coal Smoke Abatement Society at

a Conference to be held next month in the Royal Horticultural Society's New Hall, under the presidency of Sir Oliver Lodge. The sections of the Conference to consider (i.) Domestic Smoke Abatement; (ii.) Factory and Trade Smoke Abatement; and (iii.) the Administration, Legislation, and Necessary Reforms, will be presided over by Sir George Livesey, Sir William Preece, K.C.B., and Sir William Richmond, K.C.B., R.A., respectively. The municipal authorities throughout the kingdom have been invited to send delegates. In connection with the Conference the Royal Sanitary Institute are arranging an Exhibition of Smoke Abatement Appliances. The exhibits will include heating and cooking appliances by gas or electricity; grates, stoves, mechanical stokers, and fuel economisers, and other trade and municipal appliances for the prevention of smoke. Endeavour will be made to bring before the Conference the measures that are now being taken to lessen the smoke nuisance, and also the alternatives to the use of solid fuels in the home as well as the factory.

THE LATE CHARLES LUCAS.

Le JOURNAL DU R.I.B.A. s'est fait l'interprète des sentiments de profonde douleur qu'a causée la perte du regretté Charles Lucas: les lecteurs aimeront à connaître avec quelques détails la carrière de celui qui fut pendant plus de vingt-quatre ans un lien entre le R.I. et les architectes français, et dont la mémoire est pour tous ceux qui l'ont connu le souvenir d'un ami.

Charles Lucas naquit à Paris le 8 avril 1838. Il eut comme premier maître son père, Achille Louis Lucas, architecte d'un rare mérite; et, lorsqu'il aborda l'École des Beaux-Arts sous la direction de Constant Dufeux, il était préparé aux études techniques par un fond solide de connaissances littéraires et scientifiques sanctionnées par des grades universitaires.

Dès ce moment se manifestèrent les dispositions personnelles qui le portaient à envisager l'architecture par ses côtés humanitaires. Comme s'il eût senti que son rôle devait être d'obliger ses collègues et d'améliorer le sort de tous, il s'attachait à connaître dans le passé l'histoire de la profession à laquelle il se destinait; et, pour éclairer ce passé, il menait de front avec ses études de l'École des Beaux-Arts, les travaux de l'École des Hautes études historiques.

Comme architecte, les œuvres qui le passionnaient étaient celles dont il sentait la portée sociale: les écoles. Il collabora à la création de plusieurs des plus excellents groupes scolaires de Paris, et notamment à ceux des rues Fondary et de Tolbiac. Deux écoles professionnelles, qui sont de tout point des modèles, sont entièrement son œuvre, celle des industries du Livre et celle des industries de Meuble: l'école Estienne et l'école Boule. L'école Boule l'eut non seulement comme

architecte, mais aussi comme professeur; et les habiles ouvriers qu'elle a formés gardent un souvenir ému des leçons où il leur posait les principes de leur art en leur en retraçant l'histoire.

L'enseignement, Lucas le regardait comme un apostolat. Toutes les associations qui tendent à éclairer les questions sociales ou historiques, le comptaient parmi leurs membres les plus actifs. On le trouvait à la société d'Hygiène et de Médecine publique; à la société d'Économie politique et sociale; à la Commission municipale du Vieux Paris. Partout où se traitaient des problèmes d'intérêt moral, il se prodiguait; il n'y avait guère de congrès dont il ne fût l'âme. A l'Exposition de 1889, il accepta la laborieuse fonction de rapporteur de la classe d'Économie sociale; à la préfecture de la Seine il fut le rapporteur du Comité des Habitations à bon marché; et cette double mission nous a valu deux livres qui resteront comme des monuments durables. Le rapport sur les Habitations ouvrières est tout un traité où l'on pourra longtemps encore puiser des principes et des exemples.

Cette tendance à prendre l'architecture par le côté social fit de Charles Lucas un légiste hors ligne. La rédaction du Manuel des Lois du bâtiment lui est due pour une très large part; et les connaissances juridiques qu'il avait si bien coordonnées trouveront leur application dans les nombreuses et délicates expertises que les tribunaux lui confiaient.

L'œuvre à laquelle il voua les dernières années de sa vie fut une fondation de confraternité: la Caisse de défense mutuelle des Architectes. Les droits de la propriété artistique lui tenaient au cœur; et si, comme il faut l'espérer, ces droits reçoivent un jour la sanction de règlements internationaux, ce grand progrès sera un digne couronnement de ses infatigables efforts.

Cette activité débordante, qu'il dépensait sans compter dès qu'il s'agissait des autres, hâta sa fin; et, déjà sous le coup du mal qui l'enleva, ses amis le virent, avec une admiration mêlée d'effroi, se soumettre aux fatigues d'un long voyage pour s'associer au succès d'un collègue et donner une conférence qui, hélas! devait être la dernière.

En retour de tant de services Lucas recueillit des témoignages sans nombre d'une estime universelle. Outre le titre de membre du R.I.B.A., qu'il regardait comme le premier de ses titres, il comptait parmi les membres des académies de la Belgique, de l'Italie, de l'Espagne, du Portugal, de l'Amérique. La plupart des sociétés savantes de la France se l'étaient associé; et, à côté des distinctions honorifiques de son pays, il portait les ordres de Charles III, d'Espagne et du Christ de Portugal.

La Société Centrale des Architectes français, où sa présence a laissé une trace ineffaçable, lui avait décerné des médailles rappelant son concours au Manuel des Lois du bâtiment et à la création de la Caisse de défense mutuelle. Cette médaille, qui lui fut décernée il y a quelques mois à peine, fut la

dernière distinction dont il fut l'objet : sa grande, son impérissable récompense est la sympathie qui lui survit.

Paris.

AUGUSTE CHOISY, *Hon.Corr.M.*

REVIEWS.

FLATS.

Residential Flats of all Classes, including Artisans' Dwellings. A Practical Treatise on their Planning and Arrangement, together with Chapters on their History, Financial Matters, &c. With numerous illustrations. By Sydney Perks, F.R.I.B.A. 1a.8s. Lond. 1905. Price 21s. [B. T. Batsford, 94 High Holborn, W.C.]

This work breaks into literary ground which, having regard to the importance and interest of the subject, may be said to have been up to the present time scarcely scratched. Notwithstanding that the problem of housing all classes of the population of great modern cities is so constantly before us, no book of any pretensions upon its solution in the manner in question has yet appeared. If any proof of the claim of the subject to such attention be needed, a cursory glance only at this volume will supply it.

After a brief retrospect, commencing at the storied dwellings on the "insula" of Ancient Rome, arising out of the needs of an ever-expanding population within a non-expanding ring-wall, the author gives us an exhaustive description of "residential flats," from the humblest to the most luxurious, erected of late years in London and other great capitals. In this he has been fortunate in obtaining the assistance of many eminent architects, who, in a spirit of generosity which belies much that we hear to the contrary of the profession, have furnished him with drawings and valuable information relating to buildings of the kind for which they are responsible, and for which free acknowledgment is made.

Paris, where the advantage of a study of the problem, as regards the better class of such accommodation, extending over a much longer period than has been the case in our own capital, is shown in the admirable artistic results produced, is well represented in the illustrations. The author has also carried his researches to Vienna, Rome, Madrid, Amsterdam, and other great Continental cities, as well as to America. Dealing with London, we are taken from Kensington to Poplar, from Brixton to Hampstead, from the humble tenement at a weekly rent to the princely flat commanding rentals of 800*l.* per annum, and introduced to the efforts of many clever planners. This portion of the work is accompanied by a running commentary showing a very close study of the subject.

A chapter on practical points follows, such as management, finance, outgoings, rating, porters, lighting, and many others, which may appear small to the uninformed, but a study of which

will avoid many pitfalls. Some useful figures as to rentals and a list of forms of agreement are added.

The author writes in a style which, whilst making no pretence to high polish, is all that the subject requires. Being terse and almost conversational in manner it is pleasant reading and calls for no effort. With commendable modesty there is an entire absence of egotism in expressing opinions, the first personal pronoun being conspicuously absent. A reader wishing to identify the author's designs is left to rely on his own cunning.

The book is dedicated to Mr. J. Douglass Mathews in terms which fully explain and justify the choice. The publishers have put the volume into a handsome setting, with good paper and wide margin. It should prove an excellent investment to the profession.

E. GREENOP.

MEDIAEVAL ESSEX BUILDING.

Medieval Architecture in Essex. By Ernest Goodman. Published by the Author at Sunnyside, Banstead. 1905. 8vo.

The natural features of the county of Essex—the clay and chalk soil, the absence of a building stone, the presence of much timber—were balanced to a certain extent in mediaeval times by the geographical position and the more ancient Roman occupation. These resources and restrictions, and their consequent influence on church architecture, form the matter of four short essays, which, with numerous drawings and photographs, comprise the above volume.

The Roman occupation served a twofold purpose: its roads at an early date enabled the imported Caen stone and Kentish rag to reach the inland districts, while the Roman remains formed an easy quarry until the 14th century saw the revival of the art of brickmaking.

But even after this discovery—that the local conditions favoured the use of brick frankly expressed as such—the Essex builders seem to have striven to obtain an apparent stone face to their walls, constructing brickwork merely as the vile body to receive a coating of plaster. As a curious illustration of this desire, the porch window of Bures Church was built of stone below the transome, while above there was brickwork roughly finished and of a smaller section so as to take stucco. In this connection and with reference to Eastbury House Mr. Goodman says (page 21):—"It was thought no shame to imitate stone quoins and window dressings by plastering over the brickwork of such a complete and entirely beautiful piece of work as this." Still it cannot be denied that such an expedient, having no logical possibilities, greatly detracts from the architectural value of the structures. Even if the practice of sham plastering arose from the desire to bring additions into harmony with earlier work (as mentioned on page 20) it can only be regarded as an affected present-day makeshift. It is satisfactory to know that much of it has

crumbled off, and that in some cases the plaster never was applied at all.

Of Mr. Goodman's essays probably the most valuable is that which deals with the use of native timber—chiefly for towers and spires. These are classified in three groups: (a) where the tower is simply carried by the roof timbers; (b) where it is framed from the ground and carried through the roof; and (c) where the whole is placed outside the western wall of the nave as an independent structure. The second of these groups is especially interesting, and leads to a fine internal treatment. The author considers the Landon example the best, but from the drawings it seems as though Herndon-on-the-Hill were even better, being so much less complicated and more in keeping with the general character of the church. Landon, on the other hand, suggests a temporary scaffold breaking into the design. Of the third group, with the belfry entirely outside, numerous examples are presented. Mr. Goodman thinks that originally the posts and beams showed on the face, the spaces between being plastered. This certainly would be more impressive than the weather-boarding which as a rule encloses the towers to-day.

Turning to the actual book, while the paper, printing, and reproductions are quite delightful, the task of referring from letterpress to illustration is difficult and out of all proportion to the size of the volume. As the example is never opposite the text it might have been better if all the drawings had been arranged at the end on some system. A map of the county would also have been of service. But the work is a welcome addition to the scant information hitherto available, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Goodman may have that "sufficient support of a practical nature" in order to continue and complete the series.

J. MACLAREN ROSS.

MINUTES. I.

At the First General Meeting (Ordinary) of the Session 1905-06, held Monday, 6th November 1905, at 8 p.m.—Present, Mr. John Belcher, A.R.A., *President*, in the Chair, 51 Fellows (including 13 members of the Council), 58 Associates (including 3 members of the Council), 4 Hon. Associates, and numerous visitors: the Minutes of the Meeting held 3rd July 1905 [*JOURNAL*, 22nd July, p. 584] were taken as read and signed as correct.

On the motion of the Hon. Secretary it was

RESOLVED, That a letter be sent on behalf of the Institute to the widow and family of the late Alfred Waterhouse, R.A., LL.D., *Past President*, *Royal Gold Medallist*, sympathising with them in their bereavement, and expressing the admiration of members for his talents and work, and appreciation of the eminent services he had rendered the Institute.

A similar letter of sympathy was ordered to be sent on behalf of the Institute to the widow and family of the late Charles Forster Hayward [F.], F.S.A., for some years Hon. Secretary of the Institute.

Sympathetic reference was also made by the Hon. Secretary to the death of Charles Lucas, Hon. *Corresponding Member*, of Paris, and it was stated that the Council had already conveyed to the family the regrets and condolences of the Institute.

The Hon. Secretary further announced the decease of the following members:—Charles Henry Howell, elected *Associate* 1848, *Fellow* 1861; Joseph Wood, elected *Fellow* 1902; Thomas Edward Knightley, elected *Associate* 1856, *Fellow* 1860; James Weir, elected *Associate* 1874, *Fellow* 1882; Henry George Luff, elected *Associate* 1864, *Fellow* 1901; Charles Grayson Maylard, elected *Associate* 1874. Also of Lord Montagu de Beaulieu, elected *Hon. Associate* 1878; and of the following *Hon. Corresponding Members*: the Conte Giuseppe Sacconi, of Rome, elected 1887, and Johan Louis Ussing, of Copenhagen, elected 1897.

The following members attending for the first time since their election were formally admitted by the President and signed the respective Registers, viz. William Goscombe John, A.R.A., *Hon. Associate*; William Woodward, George Alfred Humphreys, A.R.C.A., William Bevan, and Arthur Ernest Heazell (Nottingham), *Fellows*; Ernest George William Souster and Charles Thomas Palmer, *Associates*.

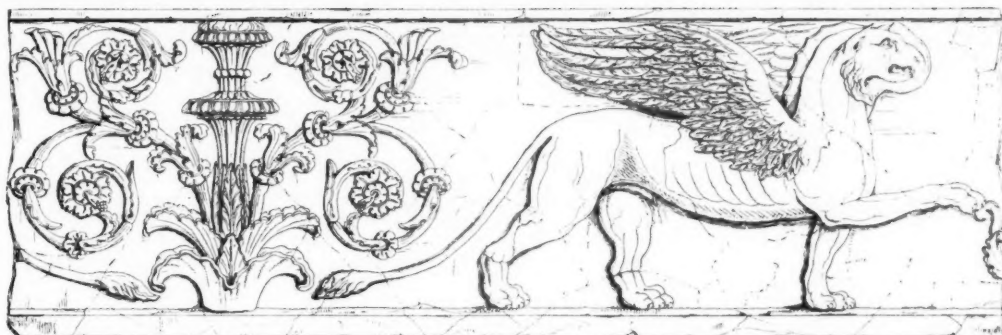
The Secretary announced the results of the Statutory Examinations held by the Institute in October.

The following candidates for membership, found by the Council to be eligible and qualified according to the Charter and By-laws, were recommended for election:—As FELLOWS (16): Herbert John Charles Cordeaux (Cape Colony); George Arthur Hamilton Dickson (A. 1888) (Johannesburg, South Africa); Hecace John Helsdon (A. 1892); Alexander Robert Hennell (*Title Prizeman* 1894, A. 1895); John Nixon Horsfield, F.S.I.; William George Hunt; Harry C. Kent, M.A. (Sydney, New South Wales); Albert Walter Moore; George Ernest Nield (A. 1894); Joseph Owen (Menai Bridge, North Wales); Armitage Rigby (Douglas, Isle of Man); Percy Robinson (*Qualified for Association* 1905) (Leeds); Fred Rowntree; Edgar Sefton Underwood; Adam Francis Watson (A. 1879) (Sheffield); Ernest Augustus Eckett Woodrow (A. 1881). As ASSOCIATES (20): * Lionel Newman Barrett (*Special Examination*); Arthur Alfred Carder (*Probationer* 1898, *Student* 1904); James Charles Cook (*Qualified Special Examination* 1904) (Bloemfontein, Orange River Colony); Otto Sigismund Doll (*Special Examination*) (Brighton); George Leonard Elkington (*Probationer* 1898, *Student* 1901); George Frederick Ely (*Probationer* 1898, *Student* 1899) (Liverpool); Charles Lionel Fleming-Williams (*Probationer* 1897, *Student* 1899); John Leighton Fouracre (*Probationer* 1898, *Student* 1902), Plymouth; Lionel Upperton Grace (*Probationer* 1897, *Student* 1898); William Courtenay Le Maitre (*Probationer* 1902, *Student* 1903); John Hutton Markham (*Probationer* 1900, *Student* 1903); Leslie Thomas Moore (*Probationer* 1899, *Student* 1903) (Great Yarmouth); Val Myer (*Probationer* 1900, *Student* 1902); James John Sydney Naylor (*Probationer* 1897, *Student* 1900); Harry Prince (*Probationer* 1897, *Student* 1900); Edward Reid (*Special Examination*) (Sunderland); Sydney Searle (*Probationer* 1899, *Student* 1903); Noel Thomas (*Probationer* 1897, *Student* 1898); John Wilson Walker (*Probationer* 1897, *Student* 1902); William Ernest Watson (*Probationer* 1900, *Student* 1902).

The President having delivered the OPENING ADDRESS of the Session, a Vote of Thanks, proposed by Sir John Thornycroft, LL.D., F.R.S., and seconded by Sir Arthur Rücker, D.Sc., F.R.S., was passed to him by acclamation, and briefly responded to.

The proceedings then closed, and the Meeting separated at 9.30 p.m.

* Except where otherwise indicated, all candidates for Associateship passed the Qualifying Examination last June.



VITRUVIUS.

ROYAL ACADEMY LECTURES, 1905.

By Professor AITCHISON, R.A.

PAST PRESIDENT R.I.B.A., ROYAL GOLD MEDALLIST.

THE Royal Academy has been generous in doing what it could for the advancement of its students. From its very foundation it supplemented the teaching in its schools by lectures on the theory of the several fine arts that are tried to be taught here. Thomas Sandby was appointed first Professor of Architecture, and he got his brother Paul, the landscape painter, to make a coloured sketch of the intercolumniations of the five sorts of temples mentioned by Vitruvius, which my father copied when he was a student; but the drawing reproduced [page 23] is by one of his pupils. My last year's lectures were on Vitruvius, who has certainly written the most valuable book on Architecture that is known. Vitruvius gives what were *then* considered the necessary qualifications for an architect, and these are so vast that most people would be deterred from attempting the art unless they felt it was their vocation. Now two years and a half in a country architect's office is thought sufficient. Vitruvius himself, seeing the large demands made, says that the students "must be initiated at an early age."

We can say that in one invention at least the ancients surpassed us—*i.e.* in the means of making the music and singing heard in their vast open-air opera houses: this was done by means of inverted bronze vases put under the seats, supported on one edge by a wooden wedge. Many of these bronze vases were found under the seats of the Opera House at Crete, and were called *ήχητα* by the Greeks, and were described by Onorio Belli. I have seen a transcription of some of Onorio Belli's MSS. in some work of Edward Falkener's. Falkener was a great traveller and classical antiquary. Perrault shows the vases in the theatre, but whether the recesses are of the proper size and shape I cannot say. Vitruvius also gives accounts of many of the celebrated buildings of antiquity; he had not only read many of the treatises of the distinguished Greek architects, now lost, but had seen in their glory some of the temples built in the time of Alexander the Great, and has given us the only lesson that I know for getting excellence in architecture. It seems scandalous that this valuable book is so much neglected by our architects and students. So much is Vitruvius valued in Germany that a small pocket volume in its native tongue is published at a low price, of which the late Dr. J. H. Middleton gave me a copy.

The late M. Charles Lucas was also good enough to present me with a copy of the small illustrated edition of Fra Giocondo of 1513, which had been the pocket volume of the great Rondelet, who completed Soufflot's Pantheon at Paris after the partial failure of the piers supporting the dome, and who was the author of the celebrated treatise on the art of building. A copy of the edition of Perrault, 1684, was also presented to me by M. Auguste Choisy.

In my last year's course of lectures I spoke mainly about the bibliography of the editions of Vitruvius, and the books then mentioned contain a good deal of information about Roman work. Vitruvius's book has this virtue about it, that it has been the prototype of all subsequent treatises on architecture from Leon Batista Alberti's to Sir W. Chambers, the second edition of which was published in 1768. The first volume of the grand work of Viollet-Le-Duc on Gothic was published in 1854. With Vitruvius is generally bound up the two books of Sextus Julius Frontinus on "The Water Supply of the City of Rome." This was, I believe, translated by Rondelet in 1820, but it has been lately published at Boston, U.S.A., in English by Mr. Clemens Herschel, hydraulic engineer. There is no date on Mr. Herschel's book, but he writes at the end of the introduction "New York, March 1899." I mention this because engineers are practical men, and would never take the trouble to read a book, much less to translate one, if they did not gain useful information from it.

How comes it, then, that architects, knowing as they do that all the advanced architecture of the world since the time of Brunelleschi has been revived Roman, have neglected to learn what they could about it from the only Roman treatise that has come down to us? For it may be said that the first mention of revived Gothic, beyond some dabbling in it by Horace Walpole, is that of Mr. Allworthy's house, described in chapter 4 of *Tom Jones*, which was first published in 1749. "The Gothick Stile of building could produce nothing nobler than Mr. Allworthy's house. There was an Air of Grandeur in it, that struck you with Awe, and rival'd the Beauties of the best Grecian Architecture; and it was as commodious within, as venerable without" [*Edition of 1849*].

The different well-known treatises on Architecture that have been written since the publication of Vitruvius are:—

The great Leon Batista's book in Latin "on Building," published in 1485, translated into Italian by Cosimo Bartoli, and published in 1565 at Monte Regale.

Sebastiano Serlio, 1544 to 1551. Venice.

Vincenzo Scamozzi, born 1552, died 1616; his books were published in 1582–1605.

Jacopo Barozzi da Vignola, 1563; Book of the Orders 1619.

Phillibert de l'Orme, 1568–1576. Paris.

Andrea Palladio, 1570. Venice.

Antonio Labacco, 1570. Rome.

Giovanni Antonio Rusconi, 1590 and 1660. Venice. The ten books of architecture according to the precepts of Vitruvius.

The principal claims Vitruvius has to our study are that he was evidently well acquainted with some of the Greek temples when the ancient rites were in vigour, and that he had read many of the treatises of the best Greek architects that are now lost, and has given us the names of architects and buildings that might otherwise be unknown. I may mention the architects Batrachus and Sauros—said, however, to be fabulous—and his description of the Mausoleum.*

It would be profoundly interesting if we could meet with the text-books of the architects of the Dark and Middle Ages, and especially those that treated of Romanesque and Gothic. If we could get the Gothic formulæ we should know the means used for getting the general

* Cavaliere Boni conjectures that the columns of the nave of St. Mark's, Venice, came from the Palace of Mausolus.

proportion of buildings touched on by Professor Cockerell in his pamphlet on William of Wykeham, and also by Cesare Cesariano. We should probably hear something about the difficulties of vaulting the naves of large churches and cathedrals, and the gradual perfecting of Gothic building after the invention of the flying-buttress.

The inclination of all trades is not to divulge trade secrets; even now in the records of the different City companies the trade itself is always called "the art and mystery." All the archives of the guilds of mediæval architects and of the guilds of masons, carpenters, and other trades, probably perished in the sack and pillaging of towns in the various wars and



INTERCOLUMNIATIONS OF TEMPLES REFERRED TO BY VITRUVIUS.
From a copy of a Water-colour Drawing by Paul Sandby.

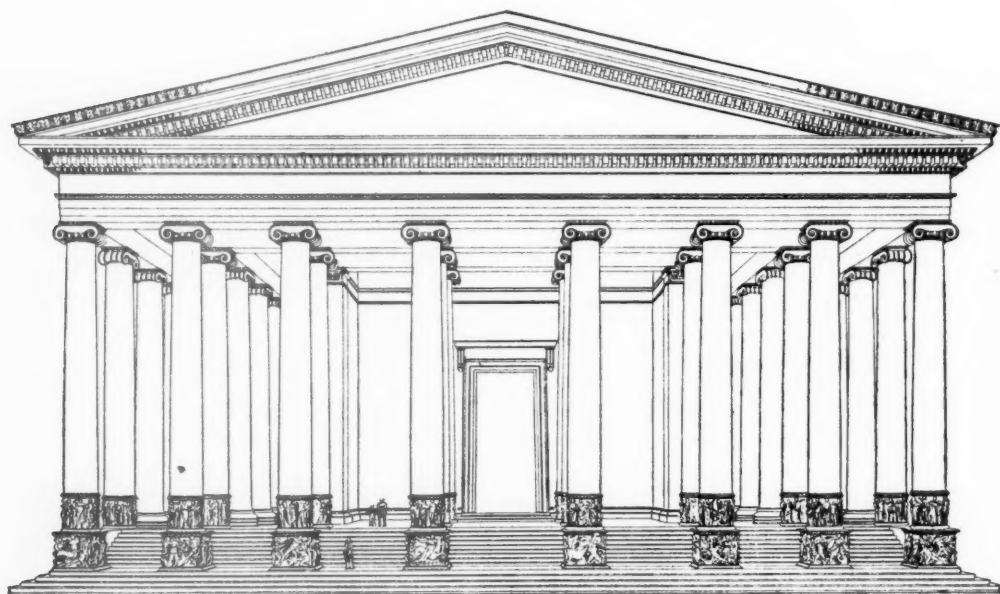
disturbances that took place; and when the Renaissance emerged all Gothic was held in contempt, as may be read in Vasari's *Lives*, not to speak of the destruction at the time of the French Revolution of everything connected with the clergy, for the clergy were then looked on with hatred and contempt.

Hope tells us that he had seen drawings in some of the muniment rooms of German churches, which showed that some graphic process for getting the thrust of vaults was then used.

In early mediæval times architecture was one of the subjects that the priests who took the full programme of instruction included in their curriculum. Lanfranc, William the Conqueror's Archbishop of Canterbury, is said to have studied architecture, and is credited by some with designing the abbey at Caen, of which he was abbot. Doubtless various

traditions of proportion were handed down from the different building nations of remote antiquity—from Persia, from Assyria, and from Egypt—that would be interesting and might be useful to us now; for though we see the diagrams in Cesare Cesariano on the Cathedral of Milan, they do not teach us much.

I think the proportions given to the Orders in Greece must have been mainly founded on their architects' experience that these proportions were suited to the weights they had to carry. I say "mainly" because their architects were artists, and had to make their buildings look sublime as well as to carry weight. It is curious that Gothic, which showed so much skill in construction and originality in design, should have been killed almost at once by the study of the Greek authors in Italy and by the introduction of classic grace into architecture.



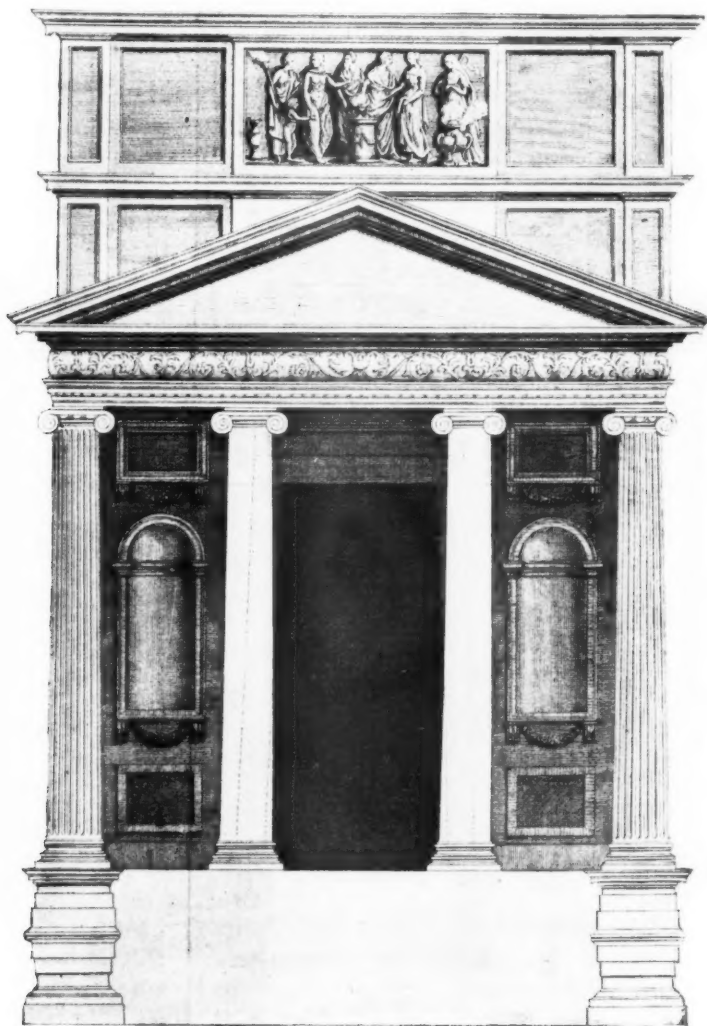
THE LATE DR. A. S. MURRAY'S CONJECTURAL RESTORATION OF THE TEMPLE OF DIANA AT EPHESUS.
From a drawing by Mr. Cromar Watt.

The last bit of real Gothic that I know in England is the staircase to the hall at Christ Church College, Oxford, built in the time of Charles I., but Gothic had to give way to the revived Roman of Inigo Jones. But no Gothic that I have ever seen approaches the grandeur of the classic portico of St. Paul's, Covent Garden. The means of getting proportion in plans and the height of naves is given in the late Professor Cockerell's pamphlet on the architectural works of William of Wykeham, published in 1846, which also gives the Professor's remarks on some of the early illustrated editions of Vitruvius.

To come back to classic architecture. As soon as the Greeks gave up the use of wood, and replaced it with marble, the size of architraves was soon settled. In the days when oak was used for this purpose, if the architraves were slightly overlaid they merely sagged; but as soon as they were replaced with marble they cracked or broke. Hence the names of the styles: Pycnostyle, $1\frac{1}{2}$ diameters apart; Systyle, 2 diameters apart; Eustyle, $2\frac{1}{4}$ diameters apart; Diastyle, 3 diameters apart; and Araestyle, with wooden architraves,

though the name of Eustyle had also something to do with the convenience of the ladies going through the intercolumniations arm in arm.

At the Propylæa at Athens the central intercolumniation was 12 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches—about double the size of the others—to admit processions and the droves of cattle passing through



From an Illustration (pl. I.) in Polenus and Strabon's Latin edition of Vitruvius [Udine 1825], Vol. I.

it that were going to be sacrificed : and the central openings of temple porticoes were eventually made wider than the others—I suppose for something connected with the ritual, and to allow the statue of the deity to be better lit and better seen.

At the Temple of Diana at Ephesus the central intercolumniation is wide—about 23 feet, or about 29 feet from centre to centre of the columns ; the piece of architrave to fill it

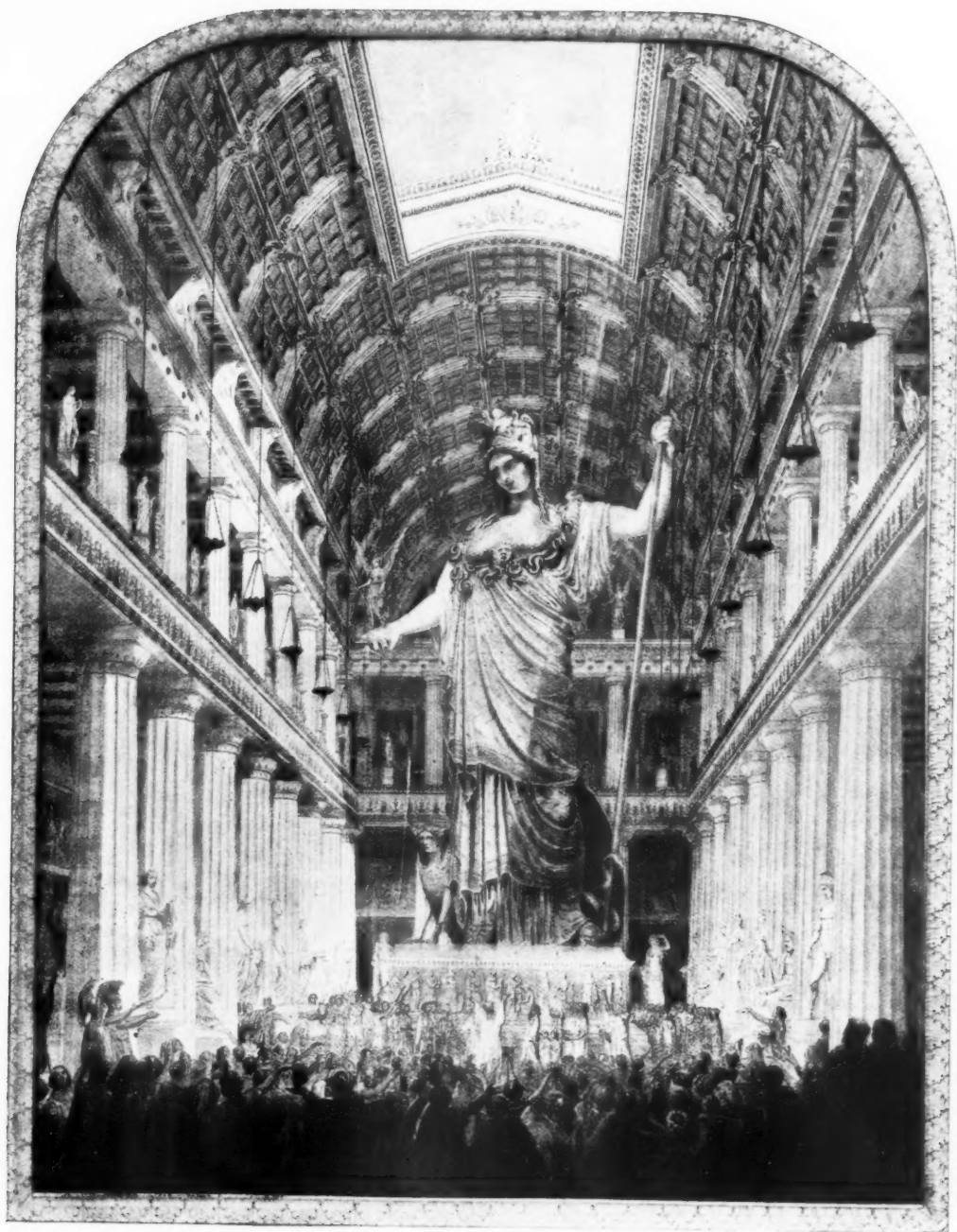
in was got up an inclined plane of sand-bags, and when it was lowered into the space left for it, it would not go into its place, but stuck. This story that Pliny tells is not of Alexander the Great's architect with the many aliases, commonly called Dinocrates; but of Chersiphron, or Ctesiphon, a former architect; for this temple was, I think, rebuilt eleven times, the last time at the expense of Alexander the Great by his architect Dinocrates. However, for this story the date does not matter. Ctesiphon was so distressed at this mishap that he was said to have contemplated suicide; but he fell asleep and was visited by the goddess, who told him that she had put the architrave in its proper place, and in the morning he found it to be so. This is the story told by Pliny the elder. Viollet-Le-Duc says that this sort of miracle was common amongst the Gothic architects before they had properly learnt their business.

The late lamented Dr. A. S. Murray, Keeper of the Classical Antiquities at the British Museum, gave a lecture at the Royal Academy and also read a paper at the Institute on this temple as built by Dinocrates, the illustrations of which are exhibited in the British Museum, with the ruins of the bases, square pedestals, and carved drums, and were published in the *JOURNAL R.I.B.A.* 21st November 1895. Students probably know the carved drums and the old base with the name of Cræsus roughly carved on it.

The discovery of the manuscript of Vitruvius by Poggio in 1414 was followed by its being printed, supposed to be in the year 1486, and it is believed to have been printed by George Herolt at Rome; but the book is without date, place of publication, pagination, or name of publisher. I think on mature reflection that the original editor, Sulpitius, who heads the first book of Lucius Vitruvius Pollio to Cæsar Augustus, is probably right; for the whole of Vitruvius shows that his work must have been written just as Augustus was settled in the Empire; for there is not in the whole of Vitruvius a single building mentioned that existed after the early part of the reign of Augustus, and the idea, that I at first favoured, that it was written in the time of Titus could hardly have been the case, for the eruption of Mount Vesuvius could scarcely have been passed over by Vitruvius without notice.

As far as we know there were only three editions of Vitruvius published in the fifteenth century, and it was not until the beginning of the sixteenth century—viz. in 1511—that Fra Giocondo published his illustrated edition. Rome, the towns of Italy, and elsewhere were searched for examples that would illustrate the words of Vitruvius, and some of the early editions show curious examples illustrating Vitruvius's words. According to the Codex, Vitruvius's original book was illustrated; but that has disappeared without leaving any trace, and we can hardly hope to find his illustrated book now, even in Herculaneum. All the civilised nations of Europe began in the sixteenth century to issue illustrated editions of Vitruvius. The first French edition by Jan Martin was published in 1547, the second in 1572; the great Italian one of C. Cesariano in 1521; the great German one of Nuremberg in 1548; another Italian one in 1534, then one in 1535, 1536, 1556, 1567, 1584. There was a Spanish version in 1582. No English translation from the Latin was published till that by Newton in 1771, but there was a translation from Perrault published in 1692, and the last English one by Joseph Gwilt in 1826. Wilkins published a translation of the domestic part of Vitruvius in two volumes in 1812, and I may here say of Wilkins that he was the first person who discovered what was the meaning of the correction of the optical illusions and use of the Scamilli Impares the existence of which was verified by the late Mr. Penrose. Since the rediscovery of the manuscript, Vitruvius has been almost identified with architecture, as the Renaissance was a revival of Roman architectural art.

It is absolutely necessary, if you want to know the names used for the various parts and the descriptions of classic buildings, to read Vitruvius. He gives, besides, a vast amount



THE PARTHENON, AS RESTORED BY THE LATE EDWARD FALKENER.
From a Water-colour Drawing by the Restorer.

of information that architects should possess, and which such men as Cockerell, Donaldson, and Gwilt tried to acquire and teach, and which affected all the promising young architects of the early part of the nineteenth century. Vitruvius has, too, told us of the methods the Romans used to get beauty (probably taken from the Greek), *i.e.* to make every part in proportion and symmetry both with the feature itself and with the whole building; he has preserved the names of many buildings now destroyed, and the names of some of the celebrated architects of antiquity. The Romans were a very brutal people, who only admired ferocity, perseverance, and cunning, as the following remarks of Plutarch, probably got from Trajan, show:—

“If a man applies himself to servile or mechanic employments, his industry in these things is the proof of his inattention to nobler studies. No young man of noble birth or liberal sentiments, from seeing the Jupiter at Pisa, would desire to be Phidias, or, from the sight of the Juno at Argos, to be Polyclethus; or Anacreon, or Philemon, or Archilochus, though delighted with their poems. For though a work may be agreeable, yet esteem of the Author is not the necessary consequence. We may therefore conclude, that things of this kind which excite not the spirit of emulation, nor produce any strong impulse or desire to imitate them, are of little use to the beholders. But Virtue has this peculiar property, that at the same time that we admire her conduct, we long to copy the example. The goods of fortune we wish to enjoy, virtue we desire to practise; the former we are glad to receive from others, the latter we are ambitious that others should receive from us. The beauty of goodness has an attractive power: it kindles in us at once an active principle; it forms our manners and influences our desires, not only when represented in a living example, but even in an historical description.

“For this reason we chose to proceed in writing the lives of great men, and have composed this tenth book, which contains the life of Pericles, and that of Fabius Maximus, who carried on the war against Hannibal; men who resembled each other in many virtues, particularly in justice and moderation, and who effectually served their respective commonwealths by patiently enduring the injurious and capricious treatment they received from their colleagues and their countrymen. Whether we are right in our judgment or not, will be easy to see in the work itself.” (From “Pericles” in Plutarch’s *Lives*, vol. ii. pp. 2, 3, in the Langhornes’ translation of 1801.)



The Propylaea.

